

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Meeting
of

8471

66-1243
FcoA

RYBAT --- EYES ONLY FOR CHIEF AT EACH ADDRESS

21 March 1956

TO: All FE Stations and Bases

INFO: C/FE
SSA/DDS
✓ DD/S
COP/DDP

FROM: Chief, FE [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Development of Decentralized Support Capabilities

25X1A9a REFERENCE: a. [REDACTED] Letter of Instructions, dated 5 July 1955
25X1A6c b. [REDACTED] dated 9 January 1956 (For SEA Stations only)

25X1A2e

1. During a recent visit to Headquarters [REDACTED] and his senior advisors the possibility of eliminating during the next 12 to 18-month period certain area-wide staff functions now being performed by the FE Support Base. There was general agreement that under appropriate circumstances this would be a feasible and desirable objective.

2. Important factors involved are:

a. Continuing support by the DD/S and his Office Directors in further improving the calibre of support personnel assigned to the organic support staffs of bases and stations. This has been promised.

b. Re-examination in the field of all FE Base and Station support activities and responsibilities to ensure adequate strength, grades and organizational structure for greater decentralization.

c. Further development and standardization of field guides and procedures for FE Bases and Stations in all support fields.

d. The continuation during an interim period of a cooperative program between the FE [REDACTED] and other FE Bases and Stations to materially increase the knowledge and competence of Base and Station Support Staffs to handle support activities and problems on an effective, efficient basis internally, including budget programs and war planning.

e. The development during this interim period of an expanded pattern of delegations of authority for final action in support matters to be given by Headquarters directly to Chiefs of FE Bases and Stations.

f. Decentralization to the fullest practical degree of support responsibilities to Bases within Stations in all of those matters where an action channel (as distinguished from information data) thru Station Headquarters would serve no essential purpose.

Document No. 009
No Change in []
☐ Enclosed
Date Changed for [] 1989
Next Review Date: 2000340011-2
By: 010
5 JAN 1979

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A6a

3. a. Part of the objective of such a program would be the continuation of [REDACTED] to serve all FE Area activities for central procurement and shipping purposes, provide general logistics support to [REDACTED] and 25X1A6a for such other general support activities (including military personnel administration) as might be appropriate.

25X1A6a

b. A relatively small central supply base activity would continue to be located on [REDACTED]

c. Some remaining central staff advisory activity in the legal, medical and security fields of responsibility would also be contemplated. The 25X1A field audit unit would be maintained.

4. A series of Support conferences are planned to be held at the FE [REDACTED] Base this year. Tentative schedule for these conferences is attached. It is hoped that the advantage to be gained by representation at these conferences will be sufficiently apparent to ensure that appropriate FE Area Bases and Stations are represented at each conference. It is understood that some small stations may not have a requirement for such representation. The agenda will be practical and educational and the opportunity for exchange of ideas in general discussions well worthwhile. Base and Station Chiefs will be specifically advised as the time for each conference is finalized and invited to send an appropriate representative.

5. a. In addition to the more technical conferences mentioned above I wish to propose a conference of all Station and Base Chiefs in the FE Area, accompanied by their Chiefs of Support, to be held on [REDACTED] during this year--possibly during the week 10-15 September. The purpose of such a conference would be three-fold:

25X1A6a

(1) To have a general briefing and discussion of our mutual support problems.

(2) To discuss objectives indicated in paragraphs 1 thru 3 above, and requirements in connection therewith.

(3) To give Base and Station Chiefs an opportunity to discuss between themselves any other mutual problems desired.

b. If appropriate and desired we would also be pleased at the conference conclusion to afford each individual attending an opportunity for at least a day or two of relaxation in an atmosphere removed from the daily pressures of local operational problems. Adequate comfortable accommodations and recreational facilities can be provided for this purpose.

c. I would appreciate very much an early expression of the personal reaction of each addressee to the proposal contained in this paragraph (without waiting initially for Headquarters clearance). It is understood, of course, that Station Chiefs will require Headquarters approval prior to actual attendance.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

Such a conference, if held, will require detailed advance planning to make it worthwhile, and no planning can begin pending an expression of your desires. If it should prove impractical or impossible for a Base or Station Chief to attend in person his deputy would be welcome.

25X1A2e

Enclosure:

Conference Schedule

Distribution:

- 1 each - All FE Stations and Bases
- 1 - C/FE
- 1 - SSA/DDS
- 1 - DD/S
- 1 - COP/DDP

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~